

Robert Dinwiddie to George Washington, July 18, 1757, with Warrant for General Court Martial, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG July 18th. 1757

SIR

Your two Letters of 10th. & 11th. I recd. by Jenkins & observe their Contents—I wrote You the 13th. wch sent up by Serjt. Fent—There will soon be Publicats. for any Person inclineable to contract for Provisions for the Forces at Winchester, & those in Augusta; they are to give in their Proposals in Writing, & by this Method I hope they will be properly supplied.

The Money remaining of the 2000£ for Drafts may be applied to Contingt. Charges, the Accts. to be kept seperate—And this Day have sign'd a Warrant for 1500 more paymt. of Arrears due on Provisions, which the Treasurer is to deliver to Mr. Walker—that I expect will be sufficient to pay all Arrearages.

— I do not understand the Demands of the People for Inds. an Acct. of them shd. be sent down here.—jenkins has recd. £31 “.3 “.3 for the two Receipts for Skins for the Inds.—& You are to continue Jenkins in Pay he giving close attendance.

Library of Congress

I sent You by Fent 16 blank Coms. which I doubt not You will fill up carefully & to those of most Merit & Spirit.—Our Printg. Office is so much engaged in printing the Paper Money, that I cou'd not get the Mutiny & Desertion Act in Print, but You have a Copy of it atested by the Clerk of the Assembly. The former Como. for holding Genl. Court Martials wou'd have done, but in Case of its being mislaid I send You a new one; & six blank Warrants to be made use of as occasion may require.

It's too premature to appoint Ct. McNeill in the room of Ct. Spotswood, as I hope we shall have some good Acct. of him. You are to allow the two Officers to resign on their Application, appointg. as good Men in their room—When You have form'd Yr. Compas. send me a Muster Roll of each Company seperate with the Names of each private Man, Serjt. Corporal & Drums, sign'd by the Capts. & Subalterns.—The Detachmt. intended for Augusta will be supplied with Provisions from Colo. Clemt. Read, Coty¹ Lieut. of Lunenberg, who will order them to the Place the Forces may be destined to.

I am uneasy on reading the List of the Many Deserters from the Drafts, I shall advise & publish Advertisemts. for apprehending them if possible, tho' they are too much countenanc'd & protected to the Shame of the Country.

Colo. Stanwix's Acct. I have perused, & must observe thereon, that Your Allowance is much more than there specified; & as the officers have very great Pay, I adhere to my former Regulation as to Bat Men, & that they appear in Rank & File;—You well know the Country has always paid the Waggon, & Colo. Stephen employ'd no less than nine Waggon to his two Companies—The Rations mention'd by Colo. Stanwix I conceive is in lieu of Provisions, but if the Officers are supplied with Provisions these Rations are out of the Question.

The Information of Jno. Street I hope is sent Colo. Stanwix; I cannot believe the Acct. of 700 French Men from the Lakes to Fort Du Quesne, as its natural to think they will collect

Library of Congress

all the Force they can to form a strong Body to the No. Wd. against Lord Loudoun, but however its necessary to be greatly on Your guard & look out. —

I shall be very glad to have a specifick Acct. of the number of Drafts those that were paid the Bounty Money & had their Regimentals before they deserted—As I wrote You in my last about the Provisions left at Fort Cumbl'd, You must settle it in the best manner You can.

I hope I have omitted nothing essential, indeed I am not in Health for writing long letters.

I wish You health & am Sir Your hble Servant ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

1 County.